NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1876.

RECENTLY APPLYING FOR OFFICE.

Vol. XXXV No. 10,864.

WASHINGTON.

THE FORAYS INTO TEXAS. CAPT. M'NALLY AND OTHER TEXANS IN WASHING-TON-F OM 3,000 TO 10,000 ATTLE DRIVEN OFF INTO MEXICO MONTHLY-BEFORE THE COM-

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Washingrov, Jan. 24.-The Committee to investigate the Rio Grande border are considering the propriety of requesting the President to proclaim nartial law throughout the strip of territory parallel and immediately contiguous to the border. It now seems probable that the Committee will recommend a bill for that purpose. Capt. L. H. McNally, commander of the Texas State troops, now on duty on the Rio Grande border, Col. U. Lott, and Judge McCampbell of Corpus Christi have arrived in Washington for the purpose of testifying before the Special Committee appointed by the House to investigate the alleged Mexican and Indian outrages on

Capt. McNally reports that since he went on duty along the frontier in April, 1875, from 3,000 to 10,000 cattle a month have been stolen from citizens of Texas and driven into Mexico. The United States forces, although nominally much larger, actually consist only of about six companies of cavalry and 125 colored infantry. These forces have to guard a line between 3,000 and 4,000 miles long, and this, from the character of the country, is es pecially difficult to accomplish. Capt. McNally's forces, which move with much greater rapidity than the United States troops, have been able on many occasions to force the Mexican raiders to give up cattle which they had collected and were driving to the river; but they have not been sufficiently numerous to meet the Mexicans where the latter appear in superior numbers, or to cross the river and rescue the stock that has been stolen and is actually in the possession of the thieves.

At a meeting of Mr. Schleicher's Mexican Border Committee this morning, Capt. McNally spent an hour in explaining the nature of these outrages and suggesting means for their protection.

AN OLD SCANDAL.

MR. WHITTHORNE'S ATTEMPT TO CALL FOR INFORMA-TION-AN EX-PAYMASTER WHO WAS DISGRACED -IS HE STILL IN THE TREASURY!

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TELBUNE.] Washington, Jan. 24 .- Mr. Whitthorne attempted in the House to-day, but failed, to pass, under a suspension of the rules, a general resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for information in regard to the management of funds derived from captured and abandoned property. One important question included in his resolution related to the personnel of the division of the Treasury Department having charge of these funds. He asserted by implication that the second officer of this division is Major William Fessenden, who, as additional paymaster in the army in 1863, was guilty of embezzle ment of public funds, and was dismissed in disgrace from the service. From a report made by the Committee on War Claims during the first session of the last Congress, it seems that Mr. Fessenden made a secret arrangement with two other persons to furnish them with money from the public funds in his charge to enable them to make speculative wood contracts with the Government, on the condition that they were to repay the amount so leaned, with a bonus of 10 per cent on actual sale. In pursuance of this arrangement Mr. Fessenden's accomplices purchased a quantity of wood in the District of Columbia and the adjoining counties of Maryland with money belonging to the United States. The speculation was unsuccessful, and the Government lost through Mr. Fessenden's empezziement about \$20,000. Subsequently one of the accomplices petitioned Congress to remnnerate him for his own losses in connection with the operation, and the Committee in reporting on this claim used the following language: " By this embezzlement (meaning Fessenden's) the Government lost \$20,000, and has now nothing to compensate for this loss." If this is the same Fessender gow in the Treasury Department, his retention in a responsible position is almost inexplicable.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

JEN. JEWELL'S PLAN TO PREVENT STRAW BIDS-HIS IDEAS AS TO MAKING FOUR CLASSES OF MER-

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The Postmaster-General held a conference with the House Committee on post-offices and post reads this morning, and discussed especially the subject of straw bids and the postage on third-class matter. His plan to prevent straw bids is as follows : That the Postmaster-General be authorized, in case the lowest bidder fails to perform the contract awarded to him, to let it to any one else who will take it at the same rate; if no such person appears, the next lower bidder is then to have the opportunity to take the contract at the rate named in his bid; but if he fails, then it is to be offered to the public at the same rate. These offerings are to continue with each bid until a responsible con tractor is found to do the work. The Postmaster-General told the Committee that he is in favor of reducing postage on transient newspapers and magazines to one-half its present rate; but for merchandise sout through the mails he recommended the establishment of four grades, to be distinguished by the distance to which the merchandise is to be carried. For the first grade, which would include all merchandise carried for short distances, he would fix the rate at one-half cent an ounce; for the second grade, at one cent per ounce: for the third grade, at a cent and a half per ounce, and for the fourth grade, which would include the longer distances, two cents per ounce. The Committee has as yet taken no action upon the recommendation.

A GOVERNMENTAL RAILWAY. SOVELTIES OF THE NEW PLAN OF CHEAP TRANS-PORTATION TO THE SEABOARD.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.-Gen. Hurlbut of Illinois to-day introduced a bill for cheap transportation which contains many novel features. It is an attempt to adopt some of the leading features of the Belgian Governmental railway system to our institutions. The bill contemplates building a double track freight railroad from New-York to Chicago, Council Bluffs, and St. Louis. The novelty is in the financial plan, which is to have Government guarantee interest at \$12,000 per mile, for which a mortgage is to be given to the United States. The United States is to own the mortgage, and is also to guarantee interest on 2,000 miles of construction bonds, for which a mortgage is to be given of the entire equipment. The balance of the money, \$30,000 a mile, is to be raised by construction bonds or stock certificates. There are to be no stockholders. Five commissioners are to be appointed by the Government, who are to have control of the stock and bonds. The plan is to pay all stock certificates within the life of the bonds, and to leave the railroad at the end of thirty years absolutely free, in the hands of the Gevernment.

NO MORE DISTRICT 3.65 BONDS. FIR H USE DETERMINED TO CHECK THE DISTRICT'S CAREER OF EXTRAVAGANCE-3.65 BONDS ISSUED IN EXCESS OF LAW NOT VALID.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUKE. Washington, Jan. 24.—The temper of the House in regard to the affairs of the District of Columbia was strongly illustrated to-day by its action on a resolution introduced by Mr. Buckner, Chairman of the Committee on District Affairs, directing Commissioners to pay the February interest on 3.65 bonds out of funds already in their possession, and

has resulted in so great an increase of the liabilities of the District. The Special Committee of Investigation which in June, 1874, reported a bill authorizing the issue of 3.65 bonds, estimated their amount at between \$8,000,000 and \$9,000,000, and until within a year nobody suspected that it would exceed \$10,000,000. The House not only refused to make a specific appropriation to pay the interest on these bonds, since the Commissioners have sufficient funds for that purpose, but it also added a proviso to the resolution that the issue of the bonds will be at once suspended, and that nothing in the resolution should be so construed as to recognize the validity or legality of any of these bonds already outstanding which have not been issued in accord-

NEW INVESTIGATIONS.

THIS SPIRIT OF INQUIRY ABROAD IN THE BOUSE-CIVIL SERVICE, PACIFIC MAIL, TEXAS PACIFIC, AND REAL ESTATE POOL RESOLUTIONS PASSED. IRY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.-The House set on foot to-day several more investigations. Mr. Willard took another step in the direction of Civil Service Reform, by securing the passage of a resolution, instructing the Committee having that subject in charge, to investigate and report what measures are sary to prevent Congressmen from acting simply as agents to procure offices for constituents or supporters. Mr. Willard is very earnest in his efforts to secure this reform, but it is feared that the House will be too much engaged with other subjects to accomplish very much in this direction during the

The Pacific Mail scandal was brought up again by a resolution introduced by Mr. Morrison and passed by the House, instructing the Clerk to take from the files of the House and place in the hands of the Committee on the Judiciary, the testimony taken before the Ways and Means Committee of last year. The special object is to ascertain if any action is necessary in the cases of Messrs. King and Schumaker. It is not understood that Mr. Morrison's resolution contemplates any further inquiry in regard to the use of money in securing an additional subsidy, but simply to ascertain whether it is the duty of the House to take any action in the cases of these two of its members. Messrs. King and Schumaker were not in their seats at the time this resolution was

Mr. Holman's Texas Pacific resolution ought to poftpone action on Col. Scott's subsidy bill; and Mr. Glover's special Committee was authorized today to seek information in regard to the real estate

pool that will be interesting.

Mr. Banning's resolution in regard to officers on duty in Washington is understood to point toward some special friends of the Administration.

FREEDMAN'S BANK IRREGULARITIES. A SPECIMEN OF THE SINGULARLY BAD MANAGEMENT

OF THE BANK.

INT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRISCNE! WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.-The Committee to investigate the affairs of the Freedman's Saving and Trust Company, of which Mr. Douglas of Virginia is Chairman, is now fully at work, and the determination shown to reach the very bowels of the concern by him and every member of the Committee is evidently irritating to the Administration press of this city. To show what may be expected, the following example may be given: A debt to the bank and secured upon real estate was | anceled by purchase of the property for the bank by its actuary. The property was afterward transferred by private arrangement for a very small sum in each and personal notes of the transferee, who was pecuniarily irresponsible. Subsequently, the same property vas transferred to a third person well known as a member of the District Ring, wh already had a contract of lease with Government for a heavy annual rental for the It is said that while the bank has received comparatively nothing for the debt in question, the present holder of the property, which was its security, has received in rents a sum nearly sufficient already to cancel the original debt to the bank. It is generally understood that in the course of the pending investigation the relation of the omewhat famous, or infamous, Seneca Sandstone Company will be inquired into, and there is a rumor affeat that the stock book of the company has within the last few days been destroyed, to prevent

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Jan. 24, 1876. The cortificate of Mr. Eastis, recently elected to the United States Senate by the Legislature of Louisiana, has been referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elec-tions. Mr. Pinchback learns from Senator Morton that action will be taken on the subject at once, and he claims that when the matter is brought to a vote, he will be seated by a majority of five votes. The Senate can hardly exense itself for delaying a decision of this question any longer, since a further postpon ment is an outrage, not only upon the rights of the claimants, but upon the State, which is only partially represented in the Senate.

A statement of the amount of the work done on the streets and sewers of Washington during the past year by the District Commissioners, contained in a letter publighed in The Tribung to-day, is incorrect, since it takes into account only the amount spent upon contracts when have been reopened and recognized. During the past year the amount spent on contracts recognized daring previous years was \$2.400,110 22, and the amount expended for materials, not included in the same past to contractors, was \$120,723 07, making a total, including the \$1,715,675 81 spent on contracts respensed during the past year, of 4,236,509 10.

Senator Sherman has written a letter to a Republican friend in the Ohio Legislature announcing his preference for Gov. Hayes as the next Republican candidate for the Presidency, and authorizing the use of his name in that as he thinks that is indication is a matter of our mined by the person to whom it was written. Senator once appeared in his seat to day for the first time during to present session of Congress.

The new reporter of the Supreme Court of the United & Co. of Boston for the publication of the reports of that acte. of Eoston for the punication of the reports of the tribunal. His profits on contracts are said to amount to about \$16,000 a year. A resolution was introduced in the Senate to-day differential the Committee on the ju-diciary to inquire into the expediency of giving to this officer a fixed salary instead of the profits on the publica-tion of records.

The virtual defeat of Senator Davis's resolution to-day by its reference to the Committee on Finance will proba-bly transfer the investigation which he desires to the House. It will either be conducted by a special commit-tee, or by the standing Committee on Expenditures of the Treasury Department.

The Irish societies are making extensive preparations for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day. [For Regular Report of Congressional Proceedings see Second Page]

SCANNELL DECLARED SANE.

RESULT OF AN EXAMINATION BY PROF. ORDRONAUX

AND DE. GRAY. [BT THERRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, Jan. 24.-Prof. Ordronaux, State Commissioner of Lunacy, and Dr. Gray of Utica, made an examination of Scannell, who was recently com mitted to the Utica Insane Asylum, and filed their certificate in the County Court of Oneida County, a day or two since, that Scannell was not insane. This will of course secure Scannell's release, inasmuch as only the order of a Judge of the Supreme Court is necessary to put into effect the decision of these exexperts. District-Attorney Phelps, who is in the city to-night, says he is not in the least surprised at this issue of the case. It was to have been foreseen, and he is, of course, entirely powerless in the matter.

HISTORY OF THE CASE.

John Scannell's brother, Florence Scannell, was shot in 1870 in an affray in Thomas Donohue's saloon, lingered for a year, and finally died of his wound. John Scannell was for a while under suspicion of having shot his brother accidentally, a suspicion only dispelled bonds. No member on either side of the House by the post mortem examination. Scannell pursued Donoffered to defend the apparent extravagance, which obus for the murder of his brother, and after two

attempts to kill Donohue, succeeded the third time, in November, 1872, in a pool-room on Broadway, firing five shots and inflicting several wounds, of which the first was probably the fatal one. He was tried the following January and the defense was insanity, caused by the death of the brother and his own relations to that death.

The jury disagreed. Owing to the engagements of William A. Beach, his sentor counsel, and to other causes, his retrial was deferred until he became the oldest prisoner in the Tombs. He was tried for the second time last November, and the same defense being interposed, the jury found him not guilty on the ground of insanity. Under the law of this State Judge Barrett, before whom be was tried, sent him to the State Asylum as being William A. Beach, Scannell's counsel, stated last even

ing to a reporter of THE TRIBUNE that he had heard from Dr. Gray, the Superintendent of the Asylum, that he had given a certificate of Scannell's sanity, and sent it to Dr. Ordronaux, the State Commissioner in Lunacy, and he had understood that Dr. Ordronaux had given his cerhad understood that Dr. Ordronaux had given his certificate to the same effect. Those certificates had been submitted to Judge Mullin of the Supreme Court, and he presumed would result in Seanne I's release. The law in such cases put three bars in the way of a man's liberty. The Superintendent of the Asylum must give his certificate; the State Commissioner of Lunaey must examine and pass on that, and even when both of these requirements were fulfilled, they, with the facts, must be submitted to a Judge of the Supreme Court for his approval, before the man is restored to liberty. He had not thought it necessary, however, to appear before Judge Mulin, and presumed his approval of Scannell's release would follow as a matter of course. As to Scannell's actual insanity, he said he had himself seen such behavior on his part as fully justified the presenting of his mental state to a jury. Whether it was insanity or overwrought passion was not for him to say, but for others. The jury had passed on that matter for one time, and now the first alienst authorities had decided the disease did not now exist.

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

PARIS, Monday, Jan. 24, 1876. A Bonapartist association, styled the Conservative National Committee, has issued a manifesto neing that they will support President MacManon until the expiration of his term in 1880. They will then demand that an appeal to the people be made for deter-mining the future form of government for France.

Gambetta and other Republicans, apprehensive of a bad effect in the provinces if the Radicals should succeed in electing all the Senators for Paris, are strenuously werking to bring about a compromise between the varous Republican factions,

LONDON, Monday, Jan. 24, 1876. The Pall Mail Gazette's Paris letter says probably two or three days will clapse before the confusion now reign-ing is dissipated, and the results of the elections for senatorial delegates are known.

SPANISH AFFAIRS.

Madeid, Monday, Jan. 24, 1876. A second ballot, which was required at Barcelona, took place yesterday. The Sagastist candidate withdrew, and Senor Casteiar was therefore probably

Schors Canaves del Castillo, Lopez de Ayala, Romero Robiedo, and Angulo, a fermer minister, Bayo, a banker, ien. Pavia, and the Marquis Sandoul, are elected from

The Ministerial journals estimate that the new Cortes will embrace about 35 Sagastists, 16 Modera Republicans. The remainder will be supporters of the

Government. LATER.-Schor Castelar has been elected a Deputy to the Cortes in Earcelona.

BERLIN, Monday, Jan. 24, 1876. The Spanish diplomatic representatives at the various courts have verbally informed the Governments that after the nefeat of the Carlists, which is expected in a short time, Spain hopes to be enabled to quell the Cuban insurrection through increased recuforcements. No for eign complications are anticipated because the United States has distinctly repudiated the idea of annexing tuba-a step which would lead to the election of a number of negro representatives to Congress.

THE GERMAN EMPIRE. THE PENAL CODE-PRINCE BISMARCK'S QUARREL

WITH COUNT VON ARNIM. BERLIN, Monday, Jan. 24, 1876. The Reichstag to-day, by a vote of 141 to

for the punishment of offenses similar to that of Du-The Reichsanzeiger, in order to counteract the effect of the translation of Count von Arnim's latest pamphlet on public in England, publishes a series of official reports made by Bismarck to the Emperor in regard to the Count. These papers begin in 1872, and severely criticise Arnim as a diplomat, dwelling on his untrustworthy

character and his proneness to smoordinate official duties to personal interest. The Emperor is reminded of his One of the reports to the Emperor states that when the lea was entertained of transferring Count von Armin to London a vigorous protest was received from that quarter because of his tendency to intrigue.

CUBAN NOTES.

ARRIVAL OF GEN. JOVELLAR-THE INSURGENTS HOPEFUL OF SUCCESS.

HAVANA, Jan. 20 .- Gen. Jovellar arrived yesterday and was welcomed by a vast assemblage. When he appeared on the balcony of the palace the crowd cheered him enthusiastically. At night he received a grand screnule. Schor Rubi visited him on board the steamer before he disembarked, and afterward attended the levec, attired in his uniform of Minister to the Crown. Replying to the address of the corporation of Havana, Gen. Jovellar said that the national integrity was not in as great danger in Spain as in Cuba. He has published a public address wherein he concedes that the exherts the people to bear the burdens of taxation, and

A band of in-urgents set fire to the estate Flor de Cuba, in the District of Hagua, on the 16th inst. On the 4th inst, the Spanish forces encoun'ered the insurgents at san José de les Layas estate and dispersed them. The new Bishop of Havan; arrived with Gen. Jovellar. He is about 40, and is very affable.

FOREIGN GRAIN MARKETS. Leiston, Monday, Jan. 24, 1876.

The Mark Lane Express, in its review of the

grain markets for the past week, says:

Milder weather gave a more favorable aspect for farmers, but the same cause led to a deterioration of samples. Milder weather gave a more favorable aspect for farmers, but the same raise led to a deterioration of samples, and prices again suffered, although good and dry samples changed little. The general averages yielded 6d, per quarter, and remain only I shifting above last year's, white deliveries of English are 56 per cent below them. At Paris inferior wheat is 6d, which shower. From his maintained its price, because better rates are obtained for wheat in some of the provincial markets. Marseilles is overstocked. In Beiglum and Holland the markets are unchanged. At Hamburg the market is dull. Inhand navigation is closed by ice, and the port is kept open with difficulty. At Dantzle prices are lower in the alsone of English demand. At St. Petersburg quotations are steady. In Austria and Hungary business has been on the smallest scale. Prices are lower everywhere. There are hopes that Spring will revive business, but unusually heavy foreign stocks deter milliers from purchasing, and act as a dead weight on trade, though we have no doubt they will be wanted shortly.

STORM AT SANTO DOMINGO.

HAVANA, Jan. 24 .- Arrivals from Santo Domingo report that terrible weather prevailed there from the 1st to the Sth of January. The French bark Van-dyke, the Dom mean man-of-war Montresti, the German brig Johann Carl, and the Norwegian brig Acieu were totally lost, and other vessels were driven ashore or

THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC.

HAVANA, Jan. 24.-Advices from Mexico to the 15th inst. have been received. The journals were still discussing the doings of Porficio Diaz. They assert that he is willing enough to begin a revolution in order to place himself in the Presidential chair, but he is without funds. His movements are closely watched.

Four hundred soldiers have been sent to reenforce the

A pyro-electric nucleor recently feil at San Gabriel Chine. It struck an arched building used as a woman's jail, and destroyed it. One woman was badly injured.

FOREIGN NOTES.

BERMUDA, Jan. 19 .- Three shocks of earthquake were experienced successively at the island of St. Thomas on the morning of the 7th inst.

LONDON, Jan. 24 .- The derangement of the telegraphs still continues. Commercial and other dis-patches between h and Liverpool and elsewhere are

ALBANY.

GUARDING THE STATE MONEYS.

THE CANAL FUNDS REMOVED FROM EX-AUDITOR THAYER'S AND JARVIS LORD'S BANKS.

INT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

ALBANY, Jan. 24.-The principal act of the new Board of Commissioners of the Canal Fund, which met the other day, after the first meeting of the Canal Board, was to order the withdrawal of canal moneys from certain depositories where they had been placed through the influence of noted members of the Ring. The sum remaining in the Troy City National Bank of which Francis S. Thaver is a director, was about \$56,000, which was ordered to be withdrawn in four equal weekly drafts. The sum remaining in the Bank of Monroe, of which Jarvis Lord is President, and which was designated by the Canal Board as a depository of toll moneys in the midst of the canal excitement of last year, was only \$15,000, but it was nevertheless withdrawn. The proceedings were taken in executive session for obvious reasons.

The money deposited in the Troy Bank, which has now all been withdrawn, was placed there at the request of Auditor Thayer, who used it as his capital in his wholesale business in the certificates which he was to audit, and easily obtained an increase in the deposit whenever he needed it. The withdrawal from Jarvis Lord's bank was of too small an amount to be of any importance, except as a declaration of principle. The action of the Canal Board last Spring was the subject of much comment at the time, and Controller Hopkins, who east his vote in favor of the measure, was severely criticised by some of the papers of his own party. Both banks will cease to be places of deposit for State funds.

REPORT OF THE STATE ENGINEER.

THE WONDERFUL INCREASE OF PREIGHTING ON THE RAILROADS-THE COST OF THE CANALS THE LAST AND THE COMING YEAR-ENGINEER HANKS ADVISES THAT THE BLACK ROCK WORK BE FIN-

M THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] ALBANY, Jan. 24.-The report of State Enrineer and Sarveyor Sweet for the year ending Sept. 30, 1875, transmitted to the Legislature by his successor, Mr. Van Buren, gives some interesting figures in relation to the tonnage movement of the canals, showing how rapidly the railroads are outstripping them, and in rela tion to the expenditures, past and to come, on the canals The total tonuage movement for the State for the filteern years beginning with 1860 and ending with 1874 is

own by the following table fr	om the report:
State canals New York Central Railroad Eric All State rossis	
he following shows the to	nnage movement for the

stories and since and	Printers and account	
1874:		
	Toos moved	Rec'd per te
	one mile,	per mile.
ate cavala		0.730
w-Yerk Central	1,391,560,707	1.46
Sec	1.047,420, 38	1.31
Contract of the contract of	1 19 111 919	3.45

The tonnage of the canals during the fiscal year of 1874 was greater, as is shown by the report, than the aggregate tonnage of the railrow's for the years 1860-61, 18-1-62, and 1862-63, and, taking the average of the roads during the 15 years ailed d to, the roads and canals were equal up to 1868. After this year the roads tennage of the roads was 412 times as great as that of the canals. During these 15 years the total tourage move , including railroads and canals, was 43,131,192,919, which was about equally divided between them on the average. The tourage of the canals has decreased from 58 per cent of the total tourage in 1860 to 17 per cent in The amount of the tennage movement on the canals in 1874 was the least since 1870, and was below the figures of the Seven of the 15 years covered by the table. In 1874 the railroads reached their highest point in the amount of their tomage and the lowest in their rates. The increase in the tonnage movement of the canals, 1219 per cent, makes a poor showing beside the 700 per cent of the Central and Eric roads and the 800 per cent of all the State rea is taken together

THE YEAR'S EXPENSES.

The expenditures for the Engineer Department for the year ending Sept. 30, 1875, were: For the Eastern sion, \$74,683-64; for the Middle Division, \$32,020 and on the Western Division, \$15,695 75, in all \$122,179 39. The amount of work done under the super vision of the Engineer Department was as follows: For the Eastern Division, \$434,579 79; for the Middle Di vision, \$202,852 17; for the Western Division, \$279, revelations believed to be damaging to some high in own misgivings when he appointed Arnim Embassador to Paris on account of the latter's untrastworthiness ing has been about 13.3 per cent of the cost of the work the enlargement of the Champlain Canal, the sum prop erly chargeable to the Eastern Division for engineering expenses is \$48,048. Deducting this from the whole amount, it leaves \$95,764, or 10.4 per cent of the whole cost of work, as the amount properly chargeable to en-gineering expenses. In 1870 the proportion was 6.2 per cent: in 1874, 7.8 per cent: and, excluding surveys, 7.13 nearly 6 per cent, including surveys, and more than 3 amount of work done during the fiscal year 1875 and the amount of work remaining to be done on existing con

cta:		200000000000000000000000000000000000000
	Amount done.	Amount remain-
Erie	£726,903 70	\$283,612 42
Champlain	140,550 26	100,610 63
Owwego		14, -00 00
Chenaugo		2,000.00
Cheming.	. 1,413 58	31111
Cavuga and S neca	. 3, 72 1	4.5773.0
Genesee Valley	7,107.65	
Onelca Lake		20,700 00
Chenango Extension		401.974 45
Crooked Lake		Addis
Ithaca Inlet		******

...\$916,931 46 The amounts set down for the Champlain Canal in clude, respectively, \$107,451 expended on the enlarge ment, and all the work remaining to be done on the en-largement. The following table shows the amount expended on the Eric Canal under extraordinary repairs during the last year, and the amount remaining to be

one:		
Division. Eastern Division Muddle Division Western Division	180,482 40	Under contract and still to be done. \$*9.410.00 10, -80.00 92,322.42
Total	he principal	
anals durin the last tw	1874.	1875.

Doubling locks \$156, 17 24 Vertical wall 77, 159 99
Reservoirs and feeders 192,72 : 43
Reservoirs and feeders 19,660 0
Improvements at Buffalo 2-3 88 : 00

Totals \$7:0,6:7 76 \$486,079 66 WORK ON THE CHAMPLAIN CANAL. The State Engineer and Surveyor announces that the

revision of the surveys, maps, plans, and estimates for the enlargement of the Champlain Canal has been com pleted. The first division of the survey extends from the nction of the Eric and Champlain Canals to Fort Miller Bridge, a distance of 29.7 miles, and the second division from Fort Miller Bridge to Whitehall, a distance of 34.05 miles. The estimated cost of the enlargement of the first division is \$1,407,010 10; of the second division, \$1,291,389 96; total, \$2,698,400 06. A second line was ran, which followed more nearly the line of the canal, and by which the cost of the enlargement would reduced about \$100,000. The State Engineer says that walle he does not feel disposed to make any recom mendation as to the policy of undertaking the speedy completion of this proposed work, he would suggest tha the navigable condition of the canal might be greatly and permanently maproved by the enlargement of those actions, where on account of limited width and depth movement of boats has heretofore been attended with great difficulty. These sections do not embrace more than five to seven nules of the canal, and it is believed may be enlarged at a cost not exceeding

nendations of interest are contained in

the report of B. M. Hanks, Resident Engineer, and acting as Division Engineer in place of John D. Fay, resigned, chiefly on account of the late "unpleasantness Hanks defends the improvement at Black Rock Harbor, where so much fraud has been committed, on engineer

ing principles, and recommends its completion. He suggests, in discussing the work as it now stands, the par asge of a law to put a stop to the discharge of sewage from the City of Buffalo into the canal, which the State is now compelled to dredge out at an annual cost of \$25,000. Mr. Hanks shows that the completion of the Black Rock Harbor work would save the State the expense of main taining the Medina and Genesee River feeders, which could then be abandoned, as well as the dams across the upper channel of Tonawanda Creek and at Rochester The engineer recommends the immediate abandonment FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] of the Genesee Valley feeder.

ESTIMATES FOR 1876-7.

The report of Charles A. Sweet, Division Engineer for the Middle Division, and of B. M. Hanks, Resident Engineer of the Western Division, gives the following esti nates for expenditures for the year ending Sept. 30, 1877, appropriations to meet which must be made by the

	MIDDLE DIVISION. Dam and buikhead, Oneida Creek feeder. Dam and buikhead, Batternut Creek feeder. Dam and buikhead, Limestone Creek feeder. Dam and buikhead, Skaneateles Creek feeder. Potection to De Ruyter reservoir. Repairs to Chenango canal reservoir. Protecting stone dams on Oswego River. Stone dam Waterloo, Cayung, and Seneca. Repairing piers at Ithaca, etc.	\$6,000 3,: 00 4,000 2,500 7,7:-0 20,000 31,000 20,000 12,000
	Total	106.200
	WESTERN DIVISION.	
	Inserting tumble gates	\$10,000
	Extending Bird Island pier	50,000
		15,000
	Fredging Buralo and Black Rock	20,000
	Constructing bridges, &c	5,700
	Bottoming out canal	
	Dredging Ohio basin	10.000
	Genesce River feeder repairs	25,000
	Rochester bridges repairs	700
	Raising trunks between Clyde and Palmyra	10,000
	Vertical walls east of Rochester	10,000
	Lowering rock bottom at Rochester	8,000
	Inserting tren needle beams in bridges	10,000
	Completing blue line maps	3,000
į.	00.414	177 400
0	Total	111,400
	AT DANK MARKO	

ALBANY, Monday, Jan. 24, 1876. On Thursday the Committee will hear Prof. Theo. W

Dwight of Columbia College Law School, in opposition to the bill requiring students in law schools to pass the same probation in study as the other law students. On Wednesday of next week the Committee will hear Dorman B. Faton, in favor of the bill to abolish Tammany, and also in favor of Senstor Rogers's Railroad bill in relation to receivers, already given in The Taibuse. It is understood to refer to the Eric road.

The Senate Judiciary Committee will hear arguments on Wednesday in the contested seat cases of Laimbeen against Gerard, and Breed against Vedder, in which the sitting Senators will raise the preliminary question that the contestants are estopped from contesting the seats on the ground that in case the elected Senators were declared ineligible the contestants would have no claim to the places.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS. SENATE ALBANT, Jan. 24, 1876.

The Senate assembled at 7:30 p. m. The wing bills were introduced:

By Mr. St. John-Providing that the Treasurer of Newburgh shall pay \$233 to Alfred Goodrich, for the care of Washington's Headquarters from Feb. 1, 1875, to Jane I, 1875. The second section provides that the Common Council of Newburgh shall annually raise the sum of \$500 for the care of the Headquarters.

Ity Mr. Wooden—tiving the right of way for the parpose of constructing a ditch in and through the Eranal, now practically abandoned, from the town of Lock Berlin, in Wayne County, to Lyons in the same county.

county.

The bill allowing the State Medical Society to change the date for holding its annual meeting was ordered to a third reading.—Adjourned.

On motion of Mr. GALLAGHER, the Senate oill relative to posting notices and papers in the County of Eric was ordered to a third reading. The annual report of the New-York Infant Asylum was

The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Bradley — Authorizing the Brooklyn Common
council to establish public baths. It authorizes an exconditure of \$25,000 for the purpose, and the issue of

bends to that amount.

By Mr. Galvin—To punish pawnbrokers and others for secreting property belonging to others. It makes the offense a misdemeanor.

By Mr. Fish—Two bills to amend the act to prevent frauds in the sale of tickets on steamboats and steam-

ships.

By Mr. Forster.—Granting the right of the United States Government to acquire the right of way to improve the Harlem River and Spuyten Duyyil Creek.

THE REVENUE FRAUDS.

THE PRESIDENT AND GEN. BABCOCK. THEIR LONG INTIMACY AND PRESENT RELATIONS-GEN. GRANT WILLING TO SEE HIS SECRETARY ACQUITTED.

jut TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE, St. Louis, Jan. 24.—The attitude of the President

especting the approaching trial of Gen. Babcock is understood here, by those most likely to speak advisedly, to be as follows: Gen. Babcock has been in military and civil life, for upward of fifteen years. The President's confidence in him has been unbounded. On his indictment Gen. Babcock gave the President an explanation of the "Sylph" telegram, which was at least plausible, and also explained the meaning of certain other acts and documents upon which the Grand Jury had felt in ducy bound to base an indictment. Gen. Babcock's statements were accepted by the President as satisfactory, and he believed, and still continnes to believe, in Gen. Babcock's innocence. All of this, of course, is a personal matter between the President and his Private Secretary; but as to whether the President will allow his private sympathies to interfere with the course of legal justice in question, which concerns the whole country. It is believed here that he will. The prosecu tion, as a matter of course, received its greatest official support from the Secretary of the Treasury, and its moral support from public sentiment; but while it is satisfied that the President will use all legitimate means to secure the acquittal of Gen. Babcock, it does not apprehend that there will be any official act on his part calculated to impede the

THE M'KEE TRIAL. DAY OF ARGUMENT-M'KEE'S COUNSEL DISPUTE

FURTHER PROGRESS ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS. St. Louis, Jan. 24.-Although it was genbe given up to legal argument, the attendance upon the trial of William McKee for alleged complicity with the Whisky Ring far surpassed the accommodations of the court-room. The jurors remained at their hotel under the guard of the Deputy Marshal. Immediately upon the opening of the court Judge Chester Krun continued his argument for the defense, eiting from a great number of authornies, both English and American, to show the incompetency of the evidence of accomplices which was

Col. Brodhead, for the prosecution, followed Judge Krum, and said it was an absurdity to hold that the Court at this stage of the case should sop the proceed-Court at this stage of the case sho id a op the proceedings, exclude further testimony, tell the jury that the evidence thus far introduced was perjured, and instruct them they could find no verdict. The real point at issue, he said, is whether the prosecution shall be permitted to introduce evidence to prove that Megrine gave money to John Leavenworth, at one time a collector of the Ring fund, but since dead, with instructions to pay it to McKee, and that Leavenworth subsequently reported to Megrine that he did not pay it to McKee. The defense claim this is meaningeneral testimony, while the prosecution claim to the contrary, and assert the conspiracy was a continued act from 1871 to 1875; that everything in regard to its history is competent testimony.

ned act from 1871 to 1875; that everything in regard to its history is competent testimony.

Major Lucien Eaton then read an argument for the prosecution, and was followed by Judge Clover for the determe. The latter made a strong argument in behalf of his client, and spoke with a great deal of feeling and some excitement. The Court will give its decision tomorrow.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

New-Orleans, Jan. 24.—The Southern States Im Ogden, Utah, Jan. 24.-The Central Pacific train

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 24.—An increased amount of machinery was running at Loustale to-day, but the meeting of the striking operatives voted as vigorously as ever not to go to work. Boston, Jan. 24.—The dead body of Sarah Oxley, an unmarried woman, '23 years old, was found in Friday the rooms of Dr. E. G. Maclellan, in La Grangest. The doct. was arrested to any on a charge of malpractice, and held \$15,000 ball.

\$10,000 ball.

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., Jan. 24.—John Hayden, the man who was fatally wounded while attempting a burglary at litinghamton last Friday night, was implicated in an attempt some six years ago to rob the National Bank of this village, when the builer, Frank Marvin, came very near losing his life.

THE STATE PRISONS.

OLD FORMS OF FRAUD.

THE CORRUPTION IN THE PRISONS IN 1854-EXCES. SIVE PAYMENTS FOR RATIONS-FALSE VOUCHERS AND ROBBERIES BY CONTRACTORS REVEALED BY AN INVESTIGATION-THE PROPOTYPES OF ALL LATER FRAUDS DISCOVERED-AN OLD OFFENDER

ALBANY, Jan. 24.-The State Prisons have been investigated before now. More than twenty years age, in 1854, the corruption and inefficiency pervading all departments of the Sing Sing Prison, and in a lesser degree of Auburn, were so gross and palpable that an investigation was ordered. Three Commissioners were appointed, John Bradley, Chairman, Lew. Benedict, jr., and Abram Vernam, who transmitted their report, a bulky volume of a thousand printed pages, to the Legislature of the following year, DeWitt C. Littlejohn being Speaker. The principal field of their inquiries was Sing Sing, where the Warden had built up or adopted a complicated system of fraud, and involved the affairs of the prison in such disorder that the investigation was had primarily with a view to its financial condition. In Auburn Prison there seemed much less to blame, while of Clinton the Commissioners were not only bopeful, but actually laudatory. Sing Sing, during the period investigated, 1850 to 1854, could make a much more favorable exhibit apparently than now. The deficit of \$29,000 in 1850 was followed by a surplus in 1851 of \$8,000, and in 1852 of \$13,000. These were two of the only three years in the last third of a century in which Sing Sing Prison has not been a charge upon the State. The loss on Sing Sing in the last ten years is \$1,383,771 85.

The details of these frauds and the men who committed them have long ceased to be of interest, but a brief statement of some of their principal methods of peculation may be of some vame now that another investigation is impending. There is nothing new in fraud under the sun. The same methods of stealing that recently existed on the canals existed a generation ago, and the thieves doubtless expect to see them in operation again at some future day. First an investigation, then an interval of decency, then a relapse-this is the order of most reforms. Investigations are for a day, but thieves are for all time. So that it is not at all unlikely that the Commissioners or committeemen who undertake this new investigation will make much the same discov-

The Committee of 1854 carefully compared the records of alleged purchases for the use of Sing Sing Prison and the "ration book," thus ascertaining what was paid for and what was actually consumed This examination covered a period of four years and developed some interesting facts. The following excesses were shown: 371,815 pounds of beef, estimated value, \$24,167; 498,997 pounds of corn meal and flour, estimated value, \$13,722; 28,488 pounds of fish, estimated value, \$1,424; 3,234 bushels of potatoes, \$2,425; number of rations of beef and perk unaccounted for, 218,557; number of rations of flour and meal unaccounted for, 501,331. The excess of the purchases alleged to have been made by the prison in excess of the quantities evidently used, and of articles which the prison had apparently no authority to buy, was estimated by the Committee at \$79,199. This was for the period of four years at this prison alone.

The discovery was made of an elaborate system of fraudulent vouchers. The Committee found to their surprise "purchases of the same quantity of flour and other articles from two different firms on the same day, the real purchases being made of a smaff firm. On investigation it was found that a man having dealings with the prison had induced the two brothers composing the firm, each without the knowledge of the other, at various times, to make but bills against the prison and receipt them, without having sold the goods or received the money, or any portion of either. One of these bills was for \$1,284; another for \$337; another for \$687; others for \$515, \$379, \$269, &c., the total amount of the seven false vonchers being \$2,577 36. This sum the Committee ordered charged back to the agent on the books of the Controller. They do not seem, however, to have been wholly fictitious. It was a device for partial fraud.

Frauds in the purchase of supplies were detected by discrepancies between the record of purchases and the freight account. In 1851, at Sing Sing, 526 nore barrels of flour were charged for than the freight accounts showed to have been received. In the following year there was a similar discrepancy of 380 barrels. Suspicion of fraud in the freight account itself was also excited, by the fact that the following year there was a discrepancy found of just the opposite kind-freight being charged upon more barrels of flour than were alleged to have been purchased; and also by the fact that freight charges were generally allowed on goods at a time when, according to the books, they had not yet been pur-

Goods were purchased in New-York at market rates, brought to Sing Sing, the voucher of the real purchase suppressed, and another substituted at an nereased figure. A number of these transactions were traced in detail, and it was shown that the nefarious traffic had assumed large proportions.

There has been a system of awards in the prisons s well as on the canals. In one case, under two contracts, the State received from the contractors only \$26,717 51 for labor, when there was due from them \$33,017 74. During the same period, the contractors recovered from the State in damages and costs \$25,000, for alleged non-performance of contract. The Committee say of this case, that "it would seem as though a struggle had existed among some of the contractors and officers to see who should most deeply wrong the State." "During the time these contractors were recovering these large awards for damages, they were constantly refusing to receive the full number of the convicts stipulated by their contracts, and a large number of those they did employ they paid but a quarter or a half of the contract price." This claim was for damages by fire, and the day had been fixed for trial, when two of the Board of Inspectors, Messrs. Clark and Angel, against the protest of the Inspector in charge, " who had exclusive legal jurisdiction," and of the State's connsel, ordered the reference of the case-and the referees allowed the claim. The Committee failed to discover, subsequently, any sufficient proof of the liability of the State. The agent attempted an appeal, but the same Inspectors interfered and compelled a submission to the judgment.

Another method of robbing the State, which is sitegether too easy and probable to be overlooked by any investigating body, was that of undercharging the amount of labor performed by convicts. A mechanic, who was in charge of the carpenters, stone-cutters, blacksmiths, and jobbers in the prison shops, testified that he received no instructions whatever from the agent to charge the time of these convicts to the contractors, but that he did so be cause he knew that they were working on contract. When the month expired, the time-book was sent to the agent's office in order to be charged up, when one of the contractors struck a number of the name from the book, so that their labor was not included in the bill. Mr. Kirkpatrick, for many years connected with the State Prisons as agent and inspector, and whose efforts at reform constantly appear throughout this investigation, sought to have se taken in the matter, but the only result was that the keeper who made the complaint was transferred o another part of the prison.

When intemperate keepers were absent from their osts, guards performed their duties and received extra pay, the vouchers stating that the extra duty was performed because of sickness, and at the same time the keepers received their salaries in full. In

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